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Metro Digest / Local News in Brief

■ Family Gets $90,000 in Suit Against Police

A jury Monday awarded seven members of an **East Los Angeles** family more than $90,000 for damages they received in 1986 when a team of Los Angeles police officers stormed their house and roughed them up while searching for a murder weapon.

The six-man Los Angeles federal court jury deliberated 5½ hours before finding against the six raiding officers from the Police Department's anti-gang unit, Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums.

"This verdict says . . . that in the name of eliminating gang activity, the Police Department itself cannot become a gang and terrorize innocent citizens," said attorney Stephen Yagman, who represented Jessie Lores, his wife and five children.

A police spokesman said he was unaware of the verdict and declined comment. According to trial testimony, the officers, armed with a search warrant, carried out the raid on Lores's house on June 13, 1986, after learning that one of his sons might have been involved in a gang-related slaying and was possibly keeping the murder weapon.

The officers—William Holcomb, Dennis Keller, Dennis Pasoung, John Sequist, Edward Ortiz and Rudolph Navarro Jr.—were cleared of any wrongdoing by investigators from the Police Department's Internal Affairs Division.

■ Divestment Backed by Retirement Panel

After months of bickering, the **Pasadena** board in charge of managing the city's $35.2-million fire and police retirement fund has agreed to sell its holdings in companies that do business with South Africa.

The Fire and Police Retirement Board had refused to comply with an order from the city Board of Directors to divest, saying the fund could lose money in the process.

But the retirement board dropped its opposition Monday after learning that the City Charter requires the fund to meet the same regulations controlling the state public employees retirement system.

Since Jan. 1, 1987, state law has prohibited the California retirement system from investing in companies involved with South Africa. The Pasadena fund has $3.5 million, or 10% of its holdings, invested in such companies.

Few Clues in Search for Newborn's Mother

LORI SHEPLER / Los Angeles Times

Sister Kevin Malone of St. Francis Medical Center with baby.

Authorities said they still had few clues Monday in their search for the mother of a newborn girl found abandoned in a trash can at **South Gate** Park.

The Latino infant was only about 4 hours old when she was found atop a baby blanket about 4 p.m. Friday by a man searching for aluminum cans for recycling, South Gate Police Sgt. Scott Attebery said.

She was listed in good condition Monday at St. Francis Medical Center.

"We have more or less exhausted everything we can do, so we're hoping to reach the public and get some help," Attebery said.

About the only lead came from witnesses who reported seeing a van stop near the trash cans shortly before the infant was found, but police have not been able to get a good description of the vehicle, he said.

■ Teacher Accused of Molesting 5 Girls

A **Maywood** first-grade teacher has been charged with 14 felony counts of molestation after five girls complained that he fondled them during class recesses.

Arraignment is scheduled today for Stanley Komae, 37, who was reassigned to a desk job from his teaching position at Heliotrope Avenue Elementary School following his arrest Oct. 3. Komae, a Norwalk resident who has taught at Heliotrope for four years, is free on $20,000 bond.

"He had this game he called the touching game," Maywood Police Detective Ed Lozano said. "He would send the boys out to recess. He would touch these girls one at a time at his desk."

Komae will plead innocent to the charges when he is arraigned at Huntington Park Municipal Court, according to his attorney, Gary M. Pohlson, who declined further comment.

Los Angeles Unified School District psychologists began counseling the students this week, Heliotrope Principal Katherine Swank said.

■ Baseball Diamond, Playgrounds Redone

Restoration of a neglected baseball diamond and playgrounds at the Jordan Downs housing project in **Watts** began Monday with $204,000 from the city Housing Authority, city Department of Recreation and Parks and a federal grant.

The ground-breaking was attended by Mayor Tom Bradley, who had talked to children at the drug-ridden public project last summer and "learned that they really wanted a place to play softball," said Evelyn Martinez-Zapata, director of project management for the Housing Authority.

She said the project will include an irrigation system to restore grass to playing areas, grading of the baseball diamond, a new backstop and fencing and "tot lots" equipped with slides, swings and merry-go-rounds. A new basketball court will also be installed in the housing project's old gym.

"The mayor told these kids 'OK, we'll get you that softball field,' and we've been trying to find the money and make plans ever since, and today it all came together," Martinez-Zapata said. The improvements will be completed in about a month, she said.

■ Political Consultant Gets 30 Days in Jail

A Missouri political consultant was sentenced Monday to serve 30 days in **Los Angeles County** Jail for voter registration fraud in the gathering of signatures for the 1986 AIDS ballot initiative.

Stanley Irvin Dale, 37, of Kansas City was also placed on three years' probation and ordered to perform 300 hours of community service by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Judith Chirlin. Dale pleaded no contest in August to a single count of voter registration fraud.

Dale, a professional petition circulator, was paid by the Lyndon LaRouche political organization to gather signatures to qualify Proposition 64 for the November, 1986, ballot in California. The initiative, which was soundly defeated by voters, sought to force state health officials to collect personal information on patients with acquired immune deficiency syndrome and to bar them from some jobs.

California authorities learned in June, 1986, that about half a dozen Missouri residents were paid to gather signatures in California. It is a violation of state law for non-California residents to circulate such petitions.

■ Landfill Operator Gets $88,000 Fine

The state Department of Health Services imposed an $88,000 fine Monday on BKK Corp. for delays in meeting state requirements during the opening of a leachate treatment system at its **West Covina** landfill last year.

The fine, which a BKK official said the company will appeal, is based on 13 violations, including delays in filing documents certifying inspection of the plant and failing to file or maintain other records. State and company officials will discuss the fine at a settlement conference, and if no agreement is reached, it will be reviewed by an administrative law judge.

The leachate treatment plant neutralizes toxic contaminants in liquids extracted from the landfill. The system is designed to prevent contaminants from seeping into ground water. A state health department spokesman said the plant is operating satisfactorily.

■ Lindsay Hospitalized 2nd Time in 3 Months

Los Angeles City Councilman Gilbert Lindsay, 87, has been hospitalized for the second time in three months for signs of exhaustion, an aide said Monday.

Lindsay entered Queen of Angels Medical Center last Thursday night and began undergoing routine tests, which are not conclusive, hospital spokeswoman Doris Stanley said.

Lindsay has represented an area that includes downtown Los Angeles since 1963. He faces reelection next year.

His chief deputy, Robert Gay, said Lindsay is expected to be released by the end of the week. Gay blamed Lindsay's apparent exhaustion on a busy schedule.

Lindsay was hospitalized briefly last July 31 for exhaustion and returned to work after about a week of rest.

■ 3 Bombs Found in Northrop Building

Three bombs were found Monday in a building at Northrop Corp. in **El Segundo**, forcing about 200 people to evacuate the defense and aerospace firm while the devices were disarmed, authorities said.

El Segundo police had no suspects in custody but believed a "disgruntled employee" may have left the "incendiary devices," Lt. Mike Lunsford said.

Employees found the bombs in a training facility building at the company's aircraft division shortly after 11 a.m. and notified plant security officers who contacted the Police and Fire departments, Northrop spokesman Terry Clawson said.

Workers were evacuated while the police bomb squad disarmed the devices, which Lunsford described as "sufficient to devastate the building," and used bomb-sniffing dogs to search for others.

■ Woman Gets 5 Years in Rock Cocaine Case

A **Panorama City** woman convicted of using her daughter and a nephew to sell rock cocaine near an elementary school was sentenced in federal court Monday to five years in prison without the possibility of parole.

U.S. District Judge Harry L. Hupp imposed the sentence on Terrie Ann Paige, 34, who was convicted Aug. 23 of four counts of selling cocaine within 1,000 feet of a school and of two counts of using minors to distribute the drug. Undercover Los Angeles police officers arrested Paige on May 25 at her apartment.

Three of the drug deals occurred at Paige's apartment across the street from Liggett Street Elementary School, authorities said. The fourth took place on a street near the school.

TOP AIR POLLUTION PENALTIES

The South Coast Air Quality Management District has responsibility to control air pollution in the area. It has the power to seek court-imposed fines against polluters of from $25 to $25,000 a day based on such factors as the extent that emissions exceed legal limits, the potential danger to the public, whether the violation was intentional, accidental or due to negligence and the company's history of violations. These are the 10 highest penalties paid in September:

COMPANY	TYPE OF BUSINESS	PENALTY	VIOLATION
Netter Manufacturing Co. Temple City	Metal fabricating plant	$6,000	Excessive hydrocarbons from metal coating operation
Unocal Wilmington	Oil refinery	$5,750	Public nuisance violations due to odors; faulty seals on a storage tank
Garrard Metal Craftsman Gardena	Metal computer parts manufacturer	$5,000	Excessive hydrocarbons from spray painting equipment; failure to maintain coating usage records
Ross Trading Co. Los Angeles	Importer	$3,000	Using paint with excessive solvent content
Advanced Coating & Silkscreen Gardena	Silkscreener	$2,500	Using coatings with excessive levels of solvent; excessive hydrocarbons from spray painting equipment
Aircraft Hydro-Forming Inc. Gardena	Aerospace parts manufacturer	$2,500	Using coatings with excessive solvent content
Rotor Exchange Gardena	Refurbisher of engine starters and alternators	$2,500	Excessive hydrocarbons from spray painting equipment; operating spray painting equipment without valid permits, without an enclosure and without an approved spray gun; operating a solvent-filled degreasing tank without an anti-evaporation cover; using paint with excessive solvents
Weslock Co. Los Angeles	Lock manufacturer	$2,500	Using coatings with excessive solvent content
U.S. Naval Shipyard Long Beach	Military base	$2,400	Failure to obtain permits to construct boilers and superheaters
Mor Cap Enterprises Long Beach, Calabasas sites	Gasoline station operator	$2,150	Failure to maintain vapor recovery systems on gas pumps

Only in L.A. / People and Events

Freddie Krueger masks—celebrating the serial killer of the "Nightmare on Elm Street" movies—may have ranked among the hottest-selling items this Halloween. But none was in evidence Monday at the Los Angeles Police Department's annual costume contest, judged by Chief Daryl F. Gates.

The winner, picked from a lineup of two dozen entrants, was Joyce Atzinger, portraying a crusading knight. A fingerprint-identification expert, Atzinger rode a hoof-less cardboard horse of her own making. She was handed a $25 check by Gates, who wore his own uniform.

Closest thing to a bad guy in the lineup was a pitchfork-brandishing devil, who failed to garner one of the five prizes.

Robert Campbell's recent Los Angeles mystery, "Alice in La-La Land," continues the long literary tradition of finding new names to describe Los Angeles.

"La-La Land"—where "murder is an art, perfect in the neon light"—has been preceded by Cuckooland (Will Rogers), Moronia (H. L. Mencken), the Queen City of Plastic (Norman Mailer), the Big Orange (Jack Smith), Lotusgeles (Herb Caen) and "92 Suburbs in Search of a City" (unknown).

In addition, a new book of essays by Richard Meltzer is titled, "L.A. Is the Capital of Kansas." This sighting represents a slight movement to the west since humorist H. L. Smith referred to Los Angeles as "Double Dubuque."

Perhaps the most curious reaction to our city was attributed to Italian-born Primo Carnera, a heavyweight champ of the 1930s. Asked about Los Angeles, Carnera is reported to have asserted: "I knock him out in two rounds."

KEN LUBAS / Los Angeles Times

Chief Gates and contestant.

That three fire chiefs in Los Angeles County graduated from the same high school wouldn't seem unusual—except that they did so in Anaconda, Mont. The last of the trio still in office, Los Angeles County Fire Chief John Englund, 57, retired Monday after 33 years with the department.

His classmates were the late Charles (Buck) Masten, former El Monte chief, and Ron Lathrop, retired Lynwood chief. "It was just a coincidence that we came down here," Englund said. "In fact, I wasn't even aware of them [being in the county] at first."

Englund's career dated back to the time when fire stations housed Dalmatian dogs as mascots. In fact, he recalled with a laugh, one "made me sort of notorious for a while."

Huntington Park instituted a leash law that was strongly enforced in a park across the street from a county fire station. Englund, then a battalion chief, received complaints that the station dog, T.J., shouldn't be an exception.

So he ordered T.J. leashed, and "there were all kinds of protests when the story got into the newspapers. I even got one letter that said, 'Did you know that God spelled backward is dog?'"

From a recent "Police Blotter" section of the Monterey Park Progress newspaper:

"Noise: Neighbors . . . complained of banging when the home was supposed to be empty. Police found three people hammering the crabs they were eating. No crime."

By STEVE HARVEY
From Staff and Wire Reports

Today's Quote

"Not everyone gets the chance to live his life twice over or has the good fortune to be born into a world of such violent motion as the one in which I have managed to survive for more than 80 years."

—Theatrical figure John Houseman, who died in Malibu on Monday at 86, summing up his life in the final sentence of his three-book autobiography.

AL MARTINEZ

Barry's Lonely America

I was in a bank the other day depositing a modest few dollars in my Christmas savings account when the teller looked up from her computer, said what sounded like "Wazzahee canalonie!" in a thick accent and waited for a reply.

I have no ear for accents. I said, "I beg your pardon?" and she repeated the phrase, "Wazzahee canalonie?"

It was obvious from the tilt of her head and the questioning look in her eyes that she expected an answer.

Her fingers remained poised over her keyboard. Time stood still.

I could have repeated "Wazzahee canalonie" in a bold, declarative manner and let it go at that, hoping it would somehow all work out.

It is a technique I employ when faced with the unknown. But this was a bank, and banks are no place to fool around.

□

The teller looked Arabic. I suspect she was from Kuwait. Maybe her daddy owned controlling interest in the bank. Maybe he owned Kuwait.

"Look," I said, taking it from the top, "I only want to deposit $15 in my account."

She seemed confused, so I raised my voice. Foreigners understand better when you shout at them.

"Put the $15 in," I hollered, "and give me back my deposit book and I'll leave!"

An armed guard at the far end of the bank was beginning to take notice. Lord help me if he thought I'd said, "Put all the money in a paper bag, and no one will get hurt!"

Shouting Bandit Hits Town. Film at 11.

And all because of an accent. The whole thing reminded me of Barry Hatch.

□

Hatch is the mayor of Monterey Park. He's been in the news lately because he believes that foreign accents and foreign cultures are ruining America, and he's not going to take it anymore.

He wants to ban immigration into the United States for three years and make English the nation's official language.

These are matters not usually handled out of Monterey Park, but Barry has decided to speak up on the subject for the sake of those Silent Americans who, wisely, remain silent most of the time.

When Barry first began talking about his plan to give America back to the Americans (not the Indians but the more recent Americans), he wanted immigration halted for one year.

By the time I reached him, he'd raised the ante to three years.

"We are being colonized by other countries," Hatch said in his Monterey Park office. "Immigration built us, and now it's destroying us."

He is a pink-faced man of 52 with thin, graying hair and the manner of a junior high school social studies teacher, which he is. Sometimes he plays tapes of his talk show appearances to his classes.

Barry believes that if Third World people keep coming to America, we will turn into a Third World nation. And because Third World people are have-nots, they will be going for the throats of us haves and it will be adios, peace and quiet.

It would be a better nation with a better future, he hints, if everyone were exactly like . . . well . . . *him.*

□

My first inclination was to argue that everyone ought to be more like *me*, but then I realized I am one of the little brown people being discussed in the first place, so that wouldn't work out.

It's him or nobody.

Barry speaks in very clear teacher's English so at least there wouldn't be a communications problem if America were limited to people who looked and thought and talked exactly like him.

No bank teller from Kuwait would ask, "Wazaahee canalonie?" No elderly Asian lady at Anne's Chinese Deli would ask, "Shunshing?"

Anne's Chinese Deli is in Chatsworth. I ate there for years and always said no to shunshing because I thought it was a sauce made of decaying fish.

Then one day I learned she was saying, "Something?" which was short for "Something to drink?"

Now I know enough to say, "A Diet Pepsi, please," and she says, "Prontang." That means thank you.

Barry wants America's golden doors closed to people like that. Throw up barbed wire. Send the wretched refuse back to their teeming shores.

I have a better idea.

Beat them at their own game, Barry. Migrate.

Find an island or a mountaintop somewhere without a medley of languages, without infringing cultures, without the wretched refuse of those teeming shores.

Build a fence around your own pure enclave, and there you'll achieve what must be the ultimate purpose or your effort anyhow.

You'll discover not that you've locked everyone out, but that you've locked yourself in, and in the end that's a lonely place to be.

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